CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for displacing a measurement device along a pipe, comprising:

a bracelet having two extremities provided with closing means for closing the bracelet around the pipe;

supporting means for supporting the measurement device in relation to the bracelet;

at least one drive wheel each having an axis, mounted on the bracelet and oriented for displacing the bracelet along the pipe;

flexible transmission means having an inlet for receiving a rotational movement and an outlet for transmitting the rotational movement;

gear means mounted to the bracelet for reorienting the rotational movement coming from the outlet of the flexible transmission means towards the axis of the wheel; and

coupling means for coupling the gear means to the axis of the wheel.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the flexible transmission means comprise:

a first primary flexible transmission shaft having an inlet for receiving the rotational movement, and an outlet supported by a support arm of the bracelet, and

a second primary flexible transmission shaft for connecting the outlet of the first primary flexible transmission shaft to the gear means.

3. An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising at least one free wheel oriented in the same manner as said at least one drive wheel, said at least one drive wheel comprising drive wheels, the free and drive wheels being distributed regularly along the bracelet.

4. An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein:

the drive wheels are grouped into first and second pairs of wheels;

said at least one free wheel comprising free wheels grouped in a third pair of wheels;

each of the pairs of wheels having its wheels divided along a longitudinal axis of the pipe;

the pairs of wheels being distributed regularly along the bracelet; and

the gear means comprise first and second gears for respectively driving the wheels of the first and second pairs of wheels via the coupling means, the first gear having an inlet for receiving the outlet of the flexible transmission means, and an outlet for driving the second gear.

5. Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the coupling means comprise secondary flexible transmission shafts for driving the first and second pairs of wheels.

6. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein each drive wheel takes the form of a roller on which two tires are mounted.

7. Apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a motor connected to the transmission means for producing the rotational movement.

8. Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the supporting means comprise a support arm for supporting a part of the measurement device in relation to the bracelet.

9. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the bracelet comprises two parts in the form of half-circles, having first extremities connected by a pivot axis and second free extremities on which the closing means is disposed.

10. Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the closing means comprise a hook-shaped element mounted on one of the second extremities of the bracelet, and a

rod mounted to the other second extremity of the bracelet and able to cooperate with the hook-shaped element for closing the bracelet around the pipe.

11. Apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising visual inspection means including a light, a camera and an encoder, mounted on a chassis, and a support arm for mounting the chassis in relation to the bracelet.

12. An apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising at least one free wheel oriented in the same manner as said at least one drive wheel, said at least one drive wheel comprising drive wheels, the free and drive wheels being distributed regularly along the bracelet.

13. Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein each drive wheel takes the form of a roller on which two tires are mounted.

14. Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein each drive wheel takes the form of a roller on which two tires are mounted.

15. Apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a motor connected to the transmission means for producing the rotational movement.

16. Apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising a motor connected to the transmission means for producing the rotational movement.

17. Apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a motor connected to the transmission means for producing the rotational movement.

18. Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the bracelet comprises two parts in the form of half-circles, having first extremities connected by a pivot axis and second free extremities on which the closing means is disposed.

19. Apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a sheath covering the flexible transmission means and fixed to the bracelet, and a motor coupled to the flexible transmission means and fixed to the sheath.

20. An apparatus for displacing a measurement bracelet along a pipe, comprising:

at least one drive wheel each having an axis, mounted on the bracelet and oriented for displacing the bracelet along the pipe;

flexible transmission means having an inlet for receiving a rotational movement and an outlet for transmitting the rotational movement;

gear means for reorienting the rotational movement coming from the outlet of the flexible transmission means towards the axis of the wheel; and

coupling means for coupling the gear means to the axis of the wheel.